

JEFFREY M. NELSON Chief Legal Officer

Office of Regulatory Staff 1401 Main Street Suite 900 Columbia, SC 29201 (803) 737-0800 ORS.SC.GOV

January 27, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire Chief Clerk & Administrator Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, South Carolina 29210

RE:

Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC for Approval of New Cost

Recovery and Incentive Mechanism for Demand-Side Management and Energy

Efficiency Programs

Docket No. 2015-163-E

Dear Ms. Boyd:

By this letter, the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") hereby notifies the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") that ORS has reviewed, and does not oppose, the request submitted by Duke Energy Progress, LLC ("DEP" or the "Company") in the above referenced docket on January 14, 2020. The Company proposes to make certain modifications to their Demand Response Automation ("DRA") Rider and Neighborhood Energy Saver ("NES") Program, including internal Program changes and tariff revisions in order to increase customer participation and improve program performance.

The Company proposes DRA Rider revisions that include lowering the required number of events from three (3) events per summer to one (1) event per summer, reducing the minimum curtailable demand from 75 kilowatts ("kW") to 50 kW, raising the monthly credit from \$ 3.25 per kW to \$4.25 per kW, and to update the section describing opt out eligibility by eliminating references to deadlines that have expired.

The Company proposes NES Program changes that include providing additional measures, such as insulation, duct sealing, air sealing and a smart thermostat to households within the eligible neighborhoods that consume more energy per square foot than homes of similar size and construction ("high consumption households"), including manufactured and mobile homes. The

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Company also proposes tariff revisions that include broadening the lighting measures by removing "compact fluorescent bulbs" and replacing it with a more general term "energy efficient lighting," which would include LEDs, and adding other measures, such as switch plate thermometers and refrigerator thermometers.

The Company believes the proposed changes to the DRA Rider will improve the performance of the Program and encourage greater participation. The Company believes the proposed changes to the NES Program will also improve the Program's performance and that the high consumption household measures could potentially save these customers up to 2,200 kilowatt hours a year.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

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cc: All Parties of Record (via e-mail)

Joseph Melchers, Esquire (via e-mail)